



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: WM-3

September 18, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2713

Dear Supervisors:

**PROPOSITION 40 GRANT FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AND THE
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND
MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY AGREEMENT
ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute a grant agreement with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to receive a \$50,000 Proposition 40 grant. This grant will be utilized towards the \$160,000 study on the establishment of economic value for watershed techniques that your Board approved on June 17, 2003.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Public Works is pursuing projects that contain multiuse watershed management techniques that are environmentally sensitive and provide a higher quality of life to citizens of the County of Los Angeles. Establishing the tangible and intangible monetary values for enhancements provided by watershed management techniques, in addition to well established traditional benefits delivered by water conservation and flood protection projects, is essential for us to be able to fairly compare alternative projects.

The grant agreement between the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District will fund a study on the economic value of watershed techniques.

The study is to research and develop a methodology for establishing the monetary value provided by the application of watershed management techniques. This methodology will be useful during the project selection and justification processes when comparing solutions delivered by traditional projects to projects that integrate watershed management techniques. The result of the study will also provide an expanded method to traditional benefit/cost ratio analysis. The evaluation of watershed management techniques includes the quality of life enhancements derived from, but not limited to, multiuse projects, wetland creation, habitat creation and preservation, property value enhancements, flood protection, recreation, landscaping, recycling of green waste/composting, groundwater recharge, improved water and air qualities, and aesthetics.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goals of Organizational Effectiveness and Fiscal Responsibility because this grant would fund a portion of the total cost to perform the economic value study on tangible and intangible monetary benefits through application of watershed management techniques.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County's General Fund. The \$50,000 Proposition 40 grant will be utilized to fund a portion of the \$160,000 economic value study financed by the Flood Control District Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the grant agreement.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

A finding of environmental impact is not required for the execution of this grant agreement.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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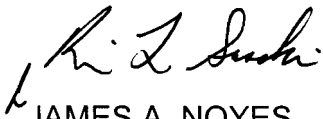
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The acceptance of the \$50,000 Proposition 40 grant will result in a decrease in net County cost.

CONCLUSION

Please return three approved copies of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Noyes", is written over the typed name.

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

EM:kk

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cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel